

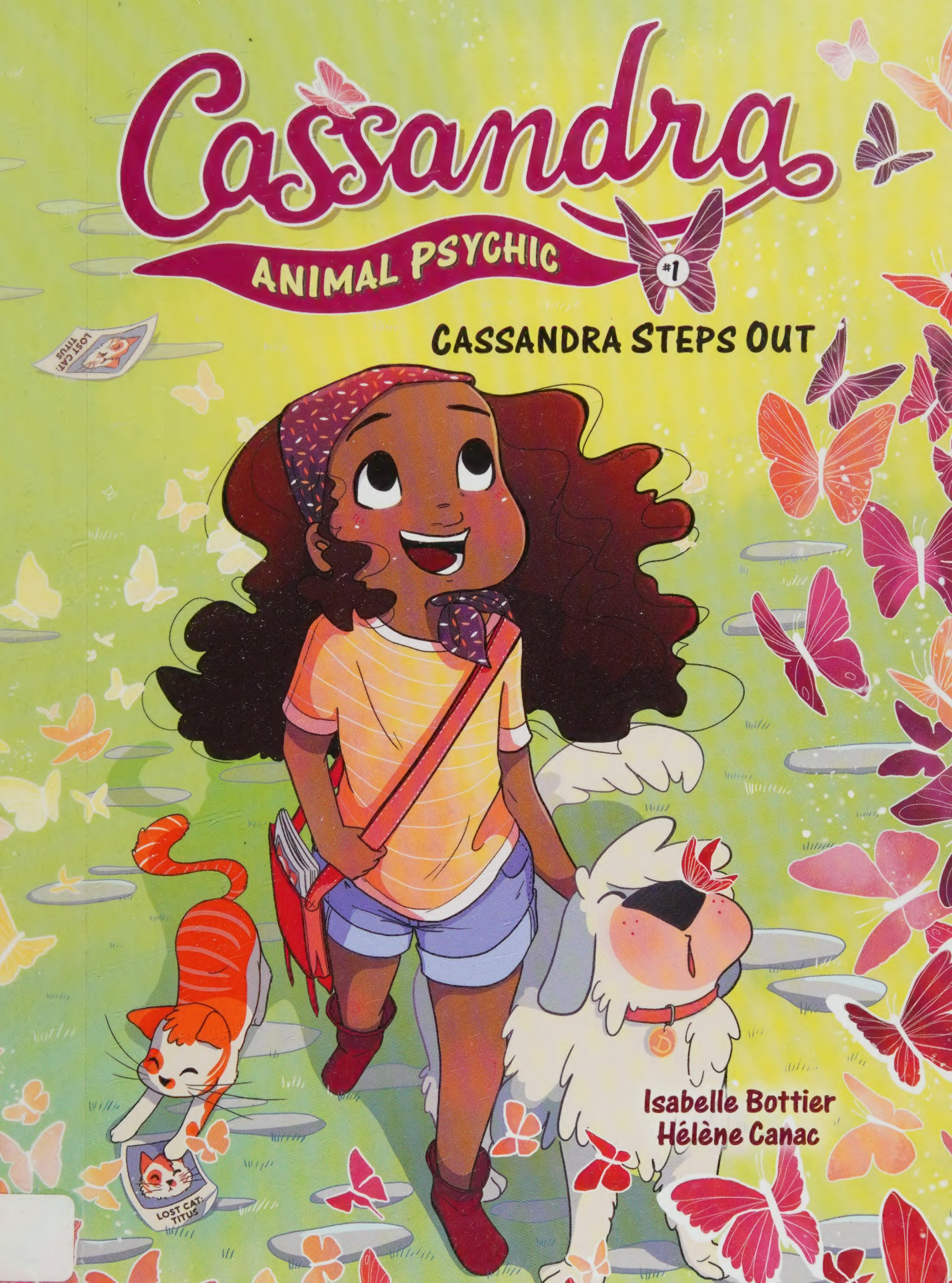
Cassandra

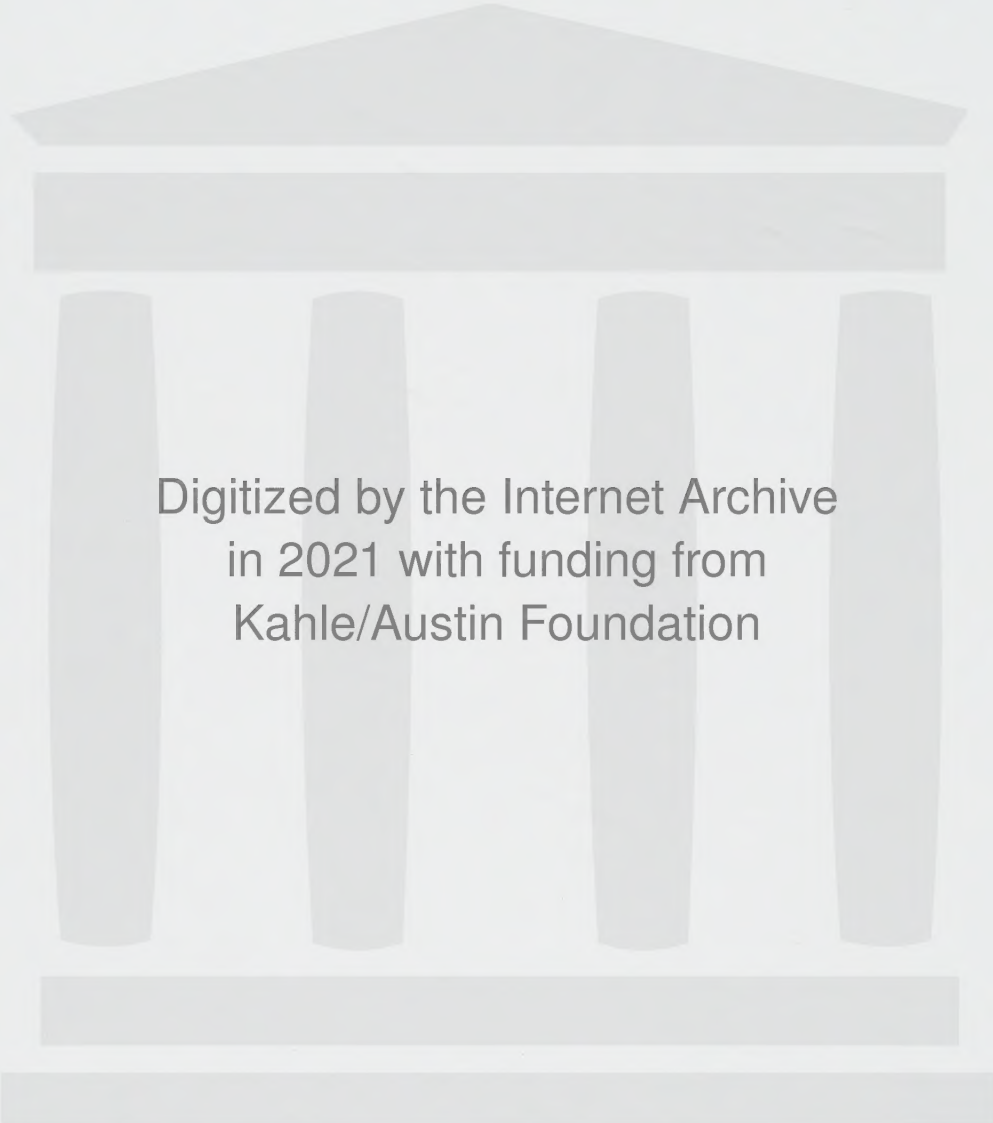
ANIMAL PSYCHIC

#1

CASSANDRA STEPS OUT

Isabelle Bottier
Hélène Canac





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Cassandra

ANIMAL PSYCHIC



CASSANDRA STEPS OUT



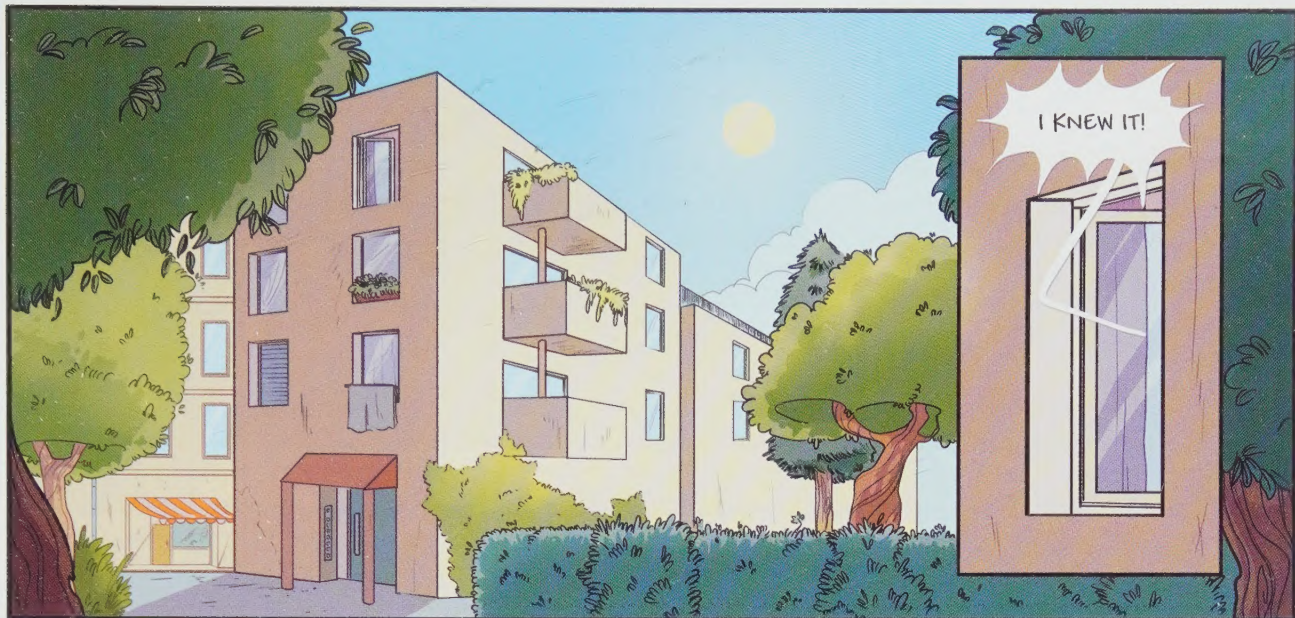
Isabelle Bottier
Hélène Canac

Graphic Universe™ • Minneapolis

—H.C.

—I.B.

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BRUNO'S TAKING ME TO MY CASTING,
AND WE'LL DROP JULIET OFF AT A
FRIEND'S HOUSE ON THE WAY.



AFTER MY CASTING, I HAVE THEATER
REHEARSALS. I DON'T KNOW WHAT TIME
I'LL BE COMING BACK, BUT THERE'S
CHICKEN AND BEANS IN THE FRIDGE.



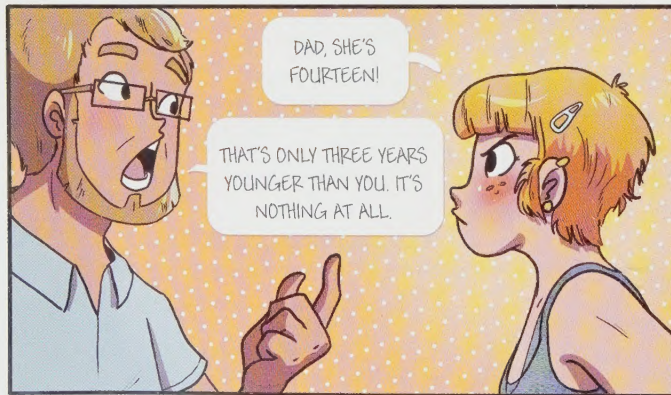
WOOF!



THE CHICKEN'S
FOR CASSANDRA,
NOT YOU.



WHY DON'T THE TWO OF
YOU HANG OUT TOGETHER
SOMETIME? GO TO THE MOVIES
OR SOMETHING?



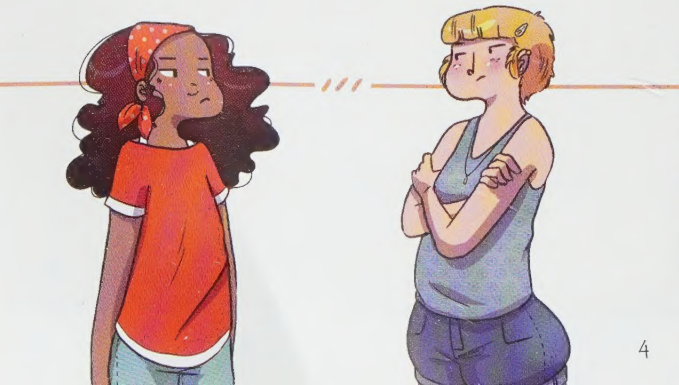
DAD, SHE'S
FOURTEEN!

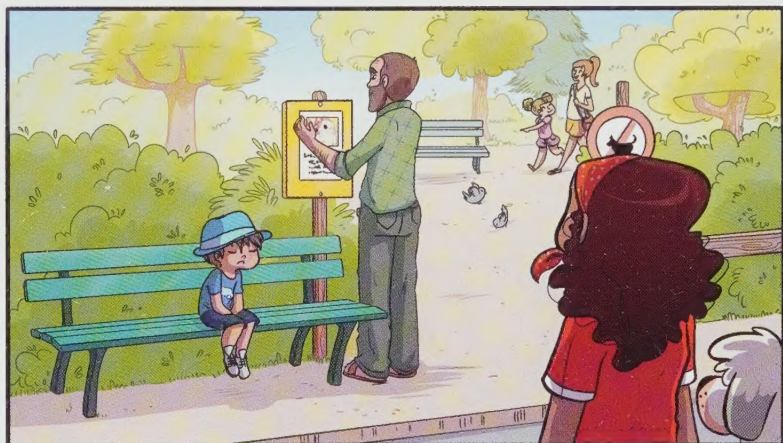
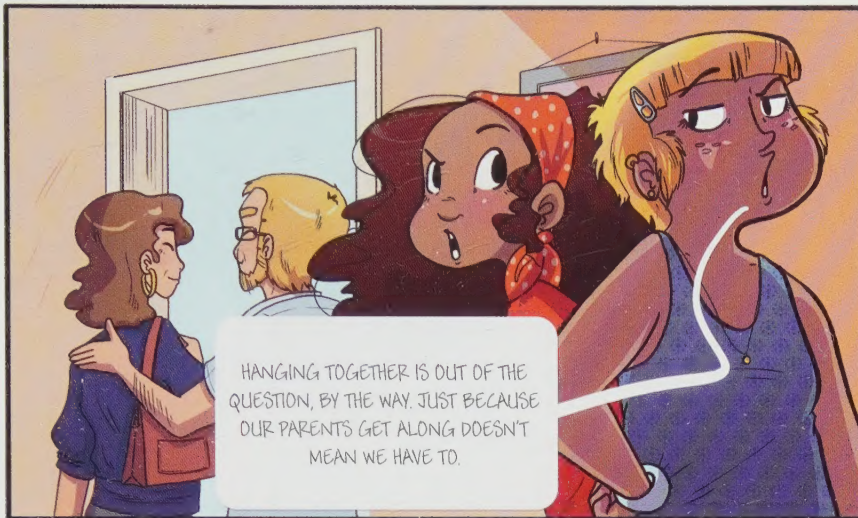
THAT'S ONLY THREE YEARS
YOUNGER THAN YOU. IT'S
NOTHING AT ALL.

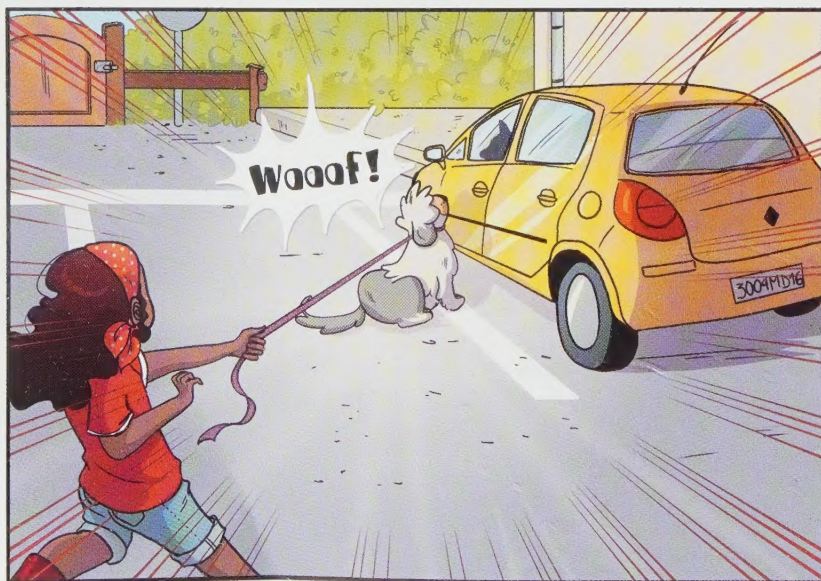


SIGH...
WELL, IT'S
TIME TO GO.

GOOD LUCK ON YOUR
AUDITION, MOM.

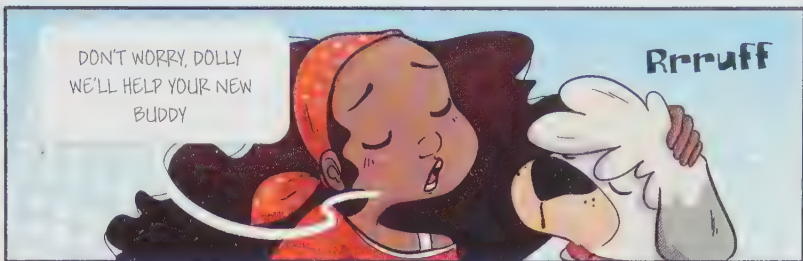








UNBELIEVABLE. THERE'S NO OPEN WINDOW! WHO COULD LEAVE THEIR DOG IN THE CAR ON A DAY LIKE TODAY? I BET THEY DIDN'T EVEN LEAVE ON THE AIR-CONDITIONING!



DON'T WORRY, DOLLY WE'LL HELP YOUR NEW BUDDY

Rrruff



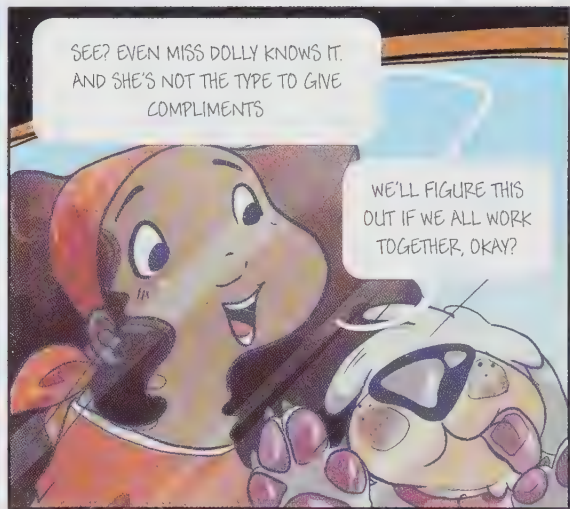
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
BREAK A WINDOW? CALL
THE POLICE?
NO, HOW ABOUT

**Awaaa
Awaaa**



OKAY, DOGGIE,
LISTEN TO THIS.
I'M GOING TO HELP
CALL YOUR MASTER.
I KNOW YOU'RE
TIRED, BUT I ALSO
KNOW YOU'RE A
VERY SMART BOY!

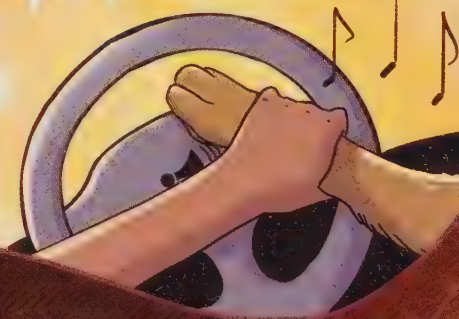
Woof

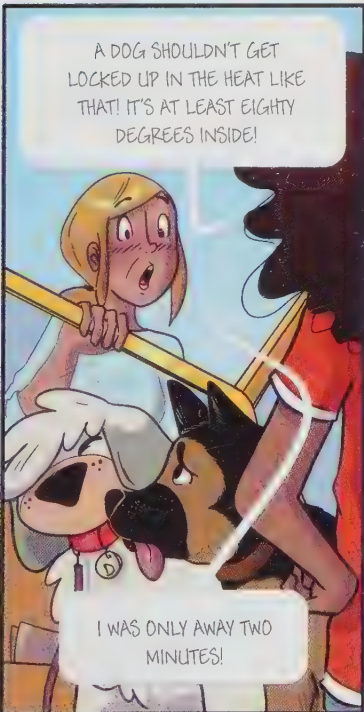
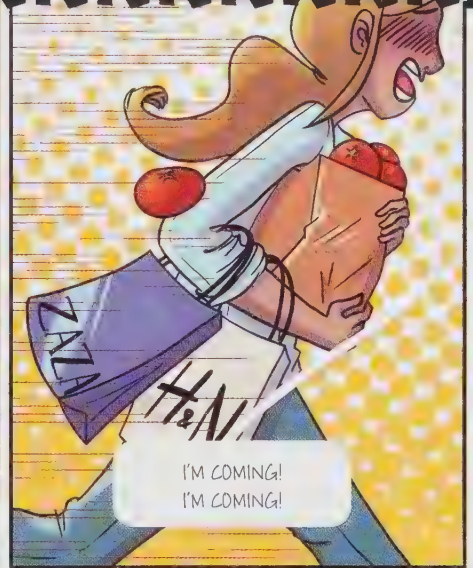
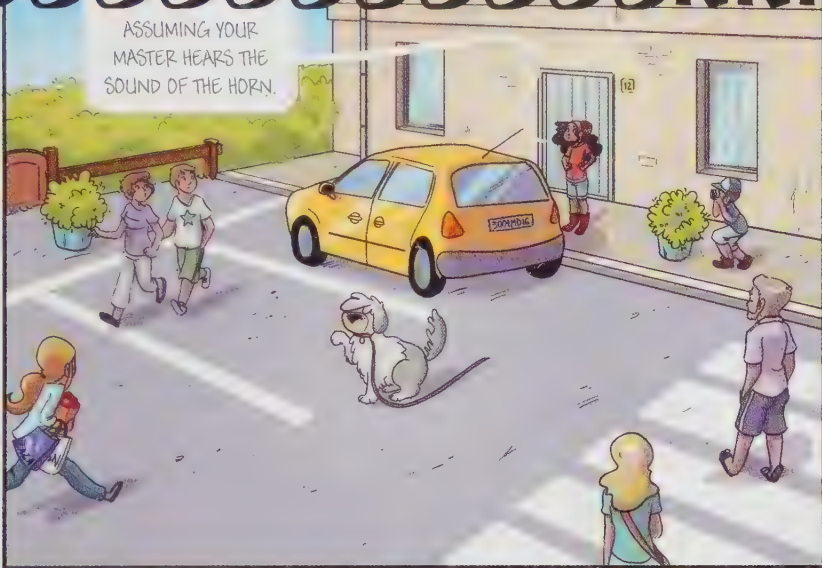


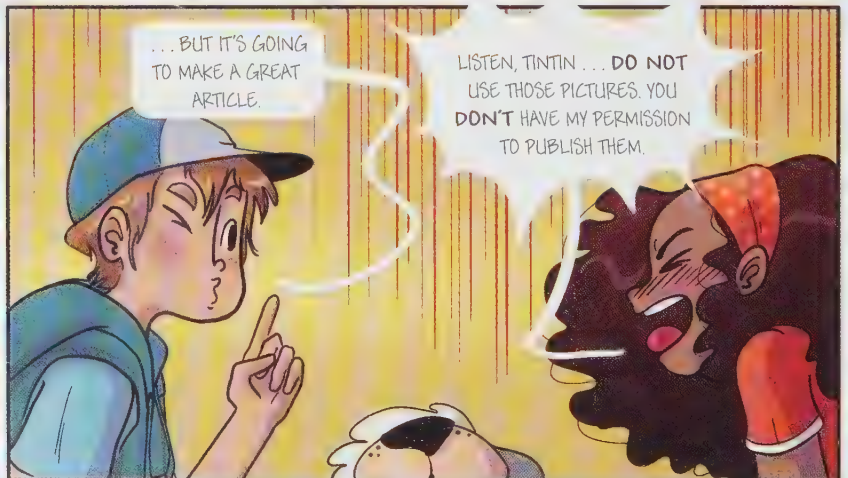
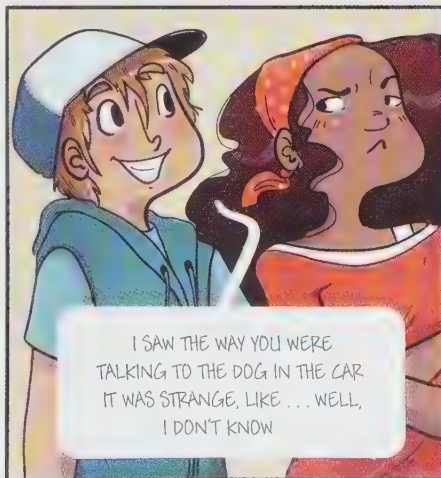
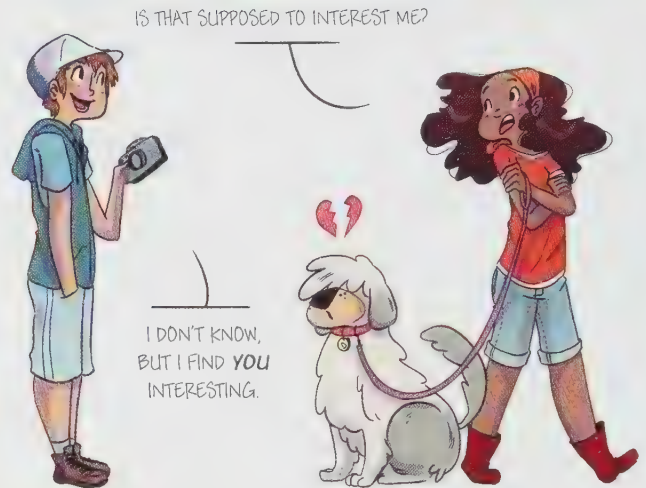
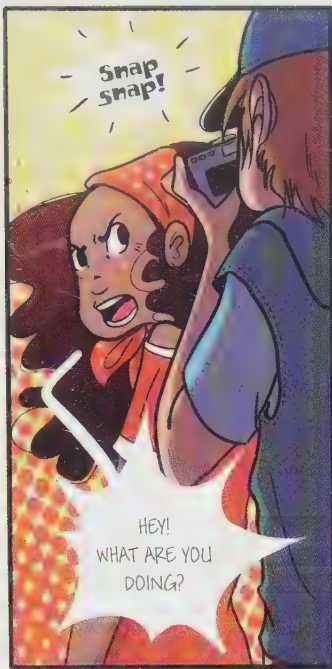
SEE? EVEN MISS DOLLY KNOWS IT.
AND SHE'S NOT THE TYPE TO GIVE
COMPLIMENTS

WE'LL FIGURE THIS
OUT IF WE ALL WORK
TOGETHER, OKAY?



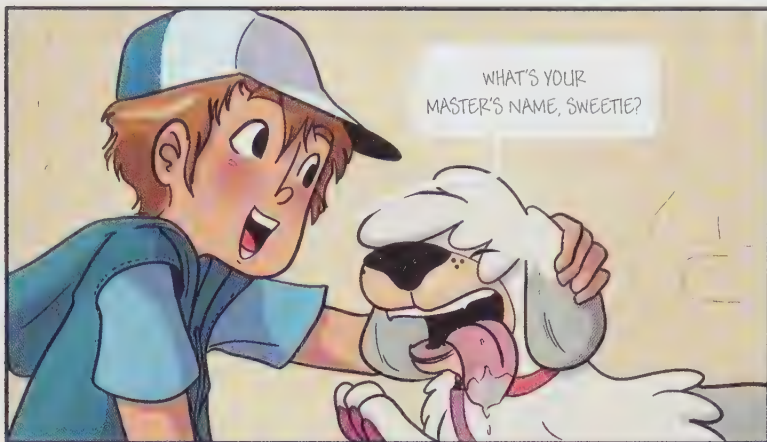








BUMMER, MY EDITOR
WOULD'VE BEEN
THRILLED



WHAT'S YOUR
MASTER'S NAME, SWEETIE?



HEY! CASSANDRA!
WHAT'S UP?



IF YOU HAVE ANY IDEAS
FOR ARTICLES, DON'T
HESITATE TO MESSAGE
ME. HERE'S MY CARD.



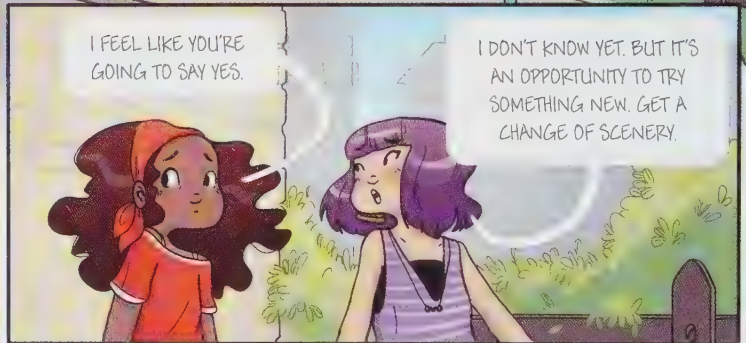
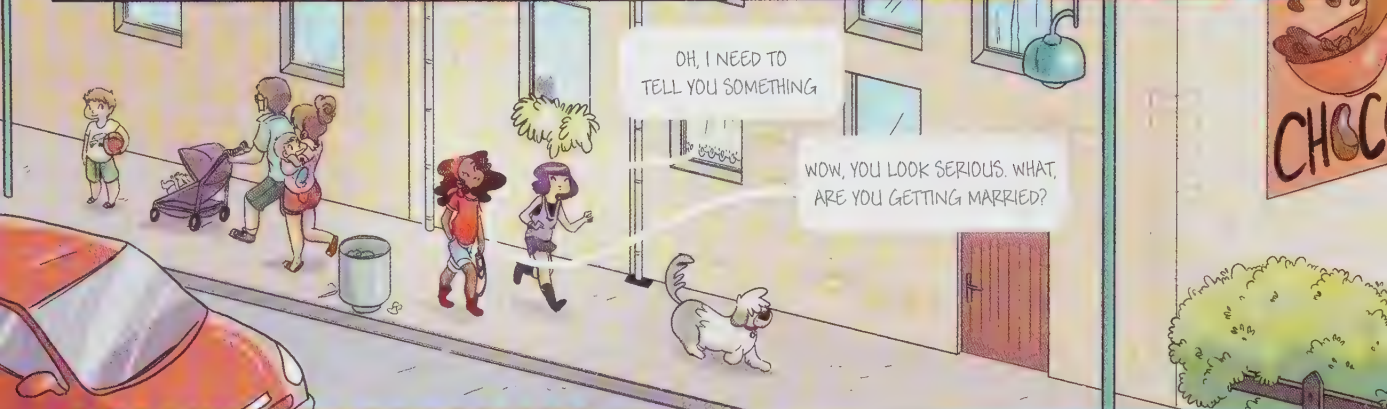
CATCH YOU LATER,
CASSANDRA!

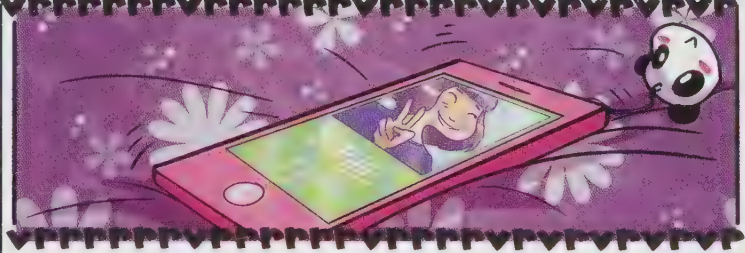
Woof

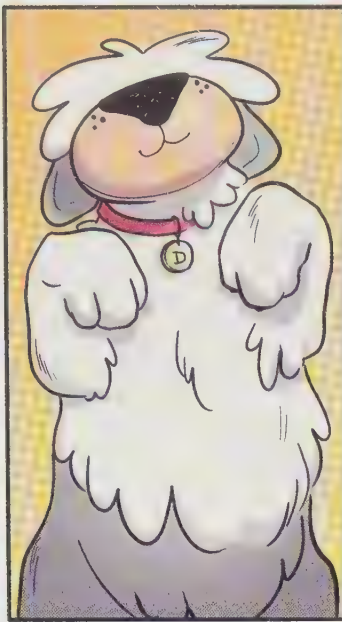


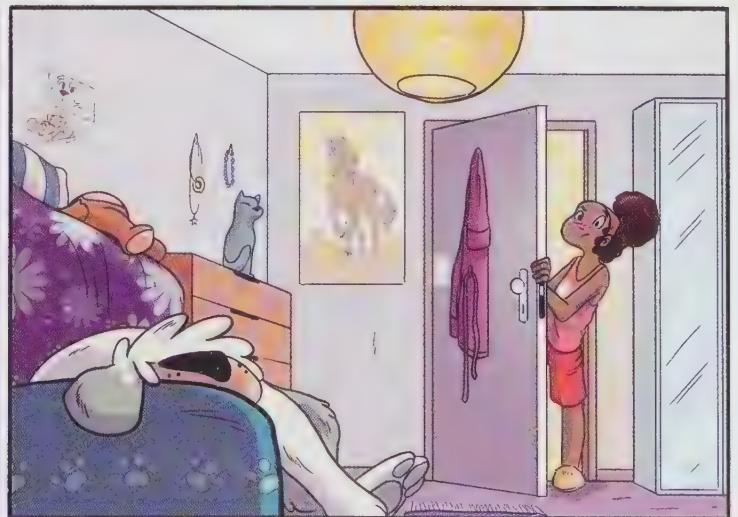
POOR DOG!
GOOD THING SUPER
CASSANDRA
WAS THERE.

SHH!
KEEP IT DOWN









YOU'RE A HEAVY
SLEEPER, GIRL.



WE CAN **TOTALLY** COUNT
ON YOU WHEN A BURGLAR
SHOWS UP.







SO HOW LONG HAVE I HAD A TALENT
LIKE THIS? WELL, ALWAYS!

THAT'S NO GOOD!
LITTLE RABBIT HAS A
TUMMY ACH!

NOOO! IT'S TOO DARK OUT-THE
HORSE'S COLD AND SCARED

I NOTICED THAT ANY TIME I MADE CONTACT
WITH ANIMALS, I FELT A FUNNY SENSATION

AS SOON AS I APPROACHED A CRITTER,
I HAD CHILLS, AND SOMETIMES I
RECEIVED TELEPATHIC MESSAGES

AWW, THE POOR BIRD'S LONELY
HE'D LIKE A GIRLFRIEND



I CAN'T IGNORE THE ANIMALS' MESSAGES.

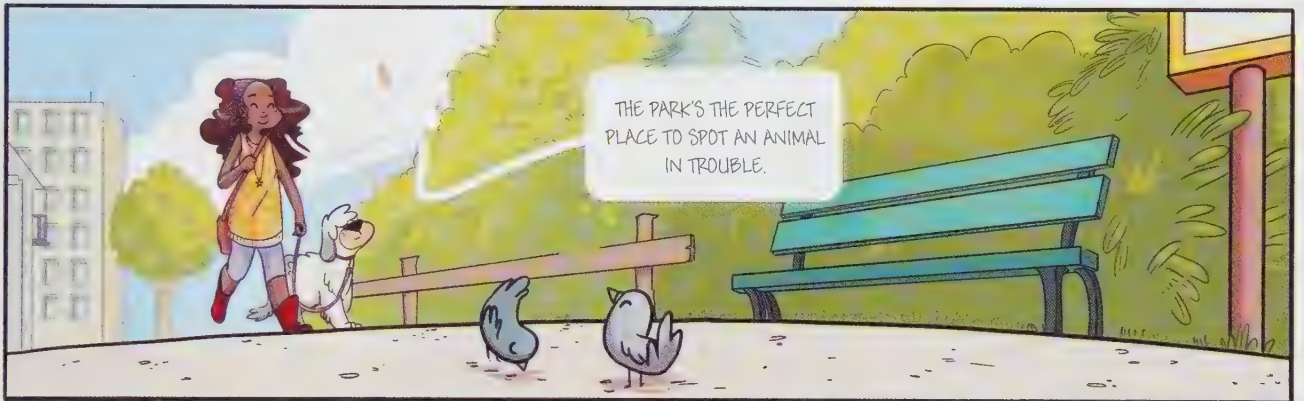
WOOF!



SOPHIE WAS RIGHT. WHO CARES WHAT OTHER PEOPLE THINK OF ME? IF I CAN DO SOME GOOD BY HELPING ANIMALS, THAT'S ALL THAT COUNTS



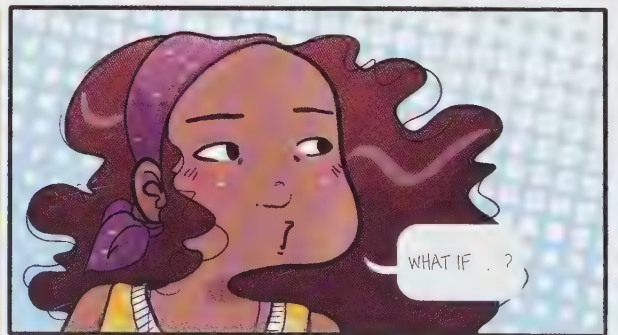
ALTHOUGH I MISS SOPHIE ALREADY. WHAT'S SO GREAT ABOUT CHANGE IF IT TAKES AWAY SOMEONE YOU LOVE?



THE PARK'S THE PERFECT PLACE TO SPOT AN ANIMAL IN TROUBLE.



OH, THE BOY WHO LOST HIS CAT IS BACK.

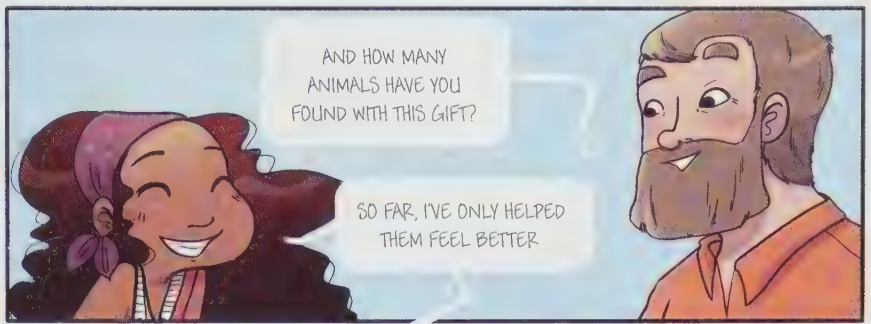


WHAT IF . . . ?



LET'S GO. I'M NOT AFRAID TO BE MYSELF ANYMORE.





Mission: Titus

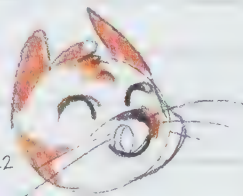


Facts of his disappearance: Serge, the owner, lives in a house with his son, Dimitri, and his girlfriend, Ariel. Titus often leaves the house to walk through their neighborhood, but he always comes back. He doesn't usually go past the street where he lives.

Serge and Dimitri discovered his disappearance on the morning of July 15. Did he disappear the previous night or earlier that morning? Nobody is sure.

Special Facts (from Dimitri)

- gentle
- picky eater
- ♥ loves to nap



How long has the cat been in the family?

One day when they were picnicking, Serge and Dimitri found Titus in a forest. He looked lost, and he wouldn't stop meowing after Dimitri. After making sure the cat didn't belong to anybody, Serge decided to keep it. And Dimitri and Titus hardly ever left each other's side. Dimitri was three years old when they adopted Titus. Now he's five.

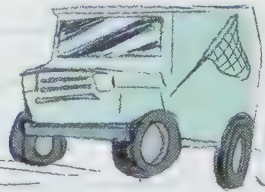
Dimitri was a hyperactive child. He was always restless. Results: He often got distracted, he didn't listen when he was spoken to, and he could get super giddy. But having Titus in his life was a huge change. The cat even helped him focus! THANK YOU, TITUS!!



- Dimitri's dad called the police and the neighborhood shelters.
- He visited all the places that Titus likes to go: their garden and the neighbors' gardens. But no neighbor had found the cat.
- Serge has left his number with animal welfare people and at the pound.

Tips I Gave Serge

- Call city maintenance people, in case they found a crushed cat somewhere. I hope not!
- Call services that keep registries of animals. If Titus was ever loose in the past and someone brought him to a shelter, he'd be in their files, and Serge and Dimitri might be able to trace him.



Little Forest
Police Department



OKAY, A GROWN-UP TRUSTS ME TO DO THIS. NOW I'VE GOT TO BE UP TO THE TASK! I'LL NEED TO DO ALL I CAN TO FIND TITUS



OH, HE DIDN'T-!

WOOF!

YOU'RE RIGHT, MISS DOLLY. IT'S NOT A GOOD PHOTO, EITHER! WE CAN'T EVEN SEE YOU!



WHO DOES HE THINK HE IS

GRR. VOICE MAIL.

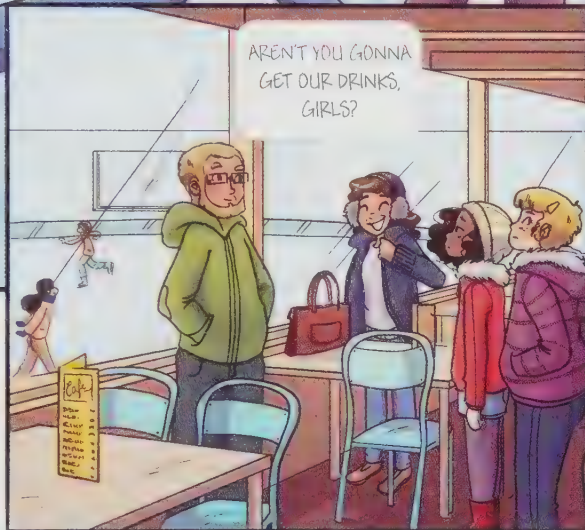


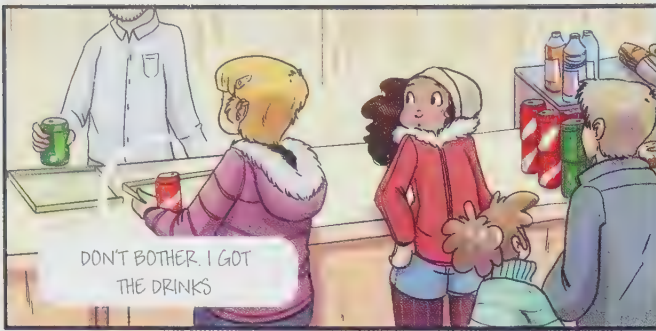
WELL, I CAN WAIT. I'LL TRY AGAIN LATER. NOW'S NOT THE TIME TO GET EVEN. IT'S TIME TO CONCENTRATE.



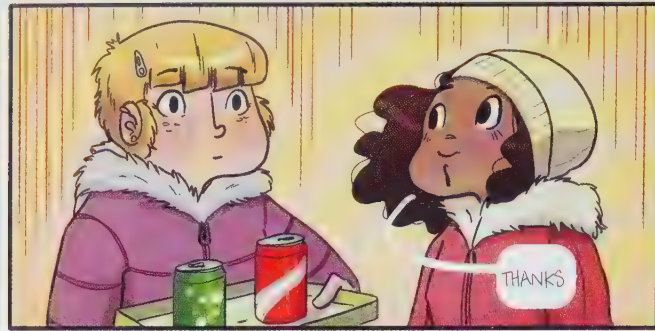
CASSANDRA! COME ON, WE'RE WAITING!

DANG IT--DON'T WORRY, TITUS. I'LL FIND YOU LATER.





DON'T BOTHER. I GOT
THE DRINKS



THANKS



IF I'M GONNA COMMUNICATE
WITH TITUS, I'VE GOT TO
PUT MYSELF ON THE
SAME WAVELENGTH.



IT'S LIKE WE'RE ON TWO
DIFFERENT FREQUENCIES.
TO GET ON THE SAME LEVEL,
I NEED TO STAY TOTALLY STILL
FORGET MYSELF FOR A SEC.



GOT IT, TITUS! I CAN SEE!
SO THAT'S WHERE YOU ARE.



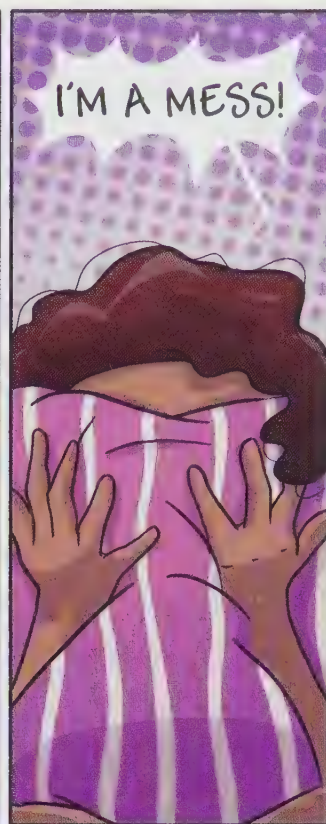
YOU DON'T LOOK SAD OR ANYTHING . . . SO IT CAN'T BE A ROUGH SPOT. BUT WHAT'S WITH ALL THE OTHER CATS? DOESN'T LOOK LIKE A PLACE THAT'S SELLING STOLEN ANIMALS . . . IS IT ABANDONED?



I REMEMBER A WALK WITH SOPHIE, NEAR A FOREST. AN ABANDONED HOUSE WAS RIGHT NEARBY . . .



ME AND MY NONEXISTENT SENSE OF DIRECTION. I COMPLETELY FORGOT HOW TO GET THERE. MAYBE SOPHIE REMEMBERS?



I'M A MESS!



THANKS FOR COMING WITH ME. YOU THINK YOU MIGHT REMEMBER WHERE THE HOUSE IS?

POSSIBLY, IF I PUT MY MIND TO IT.

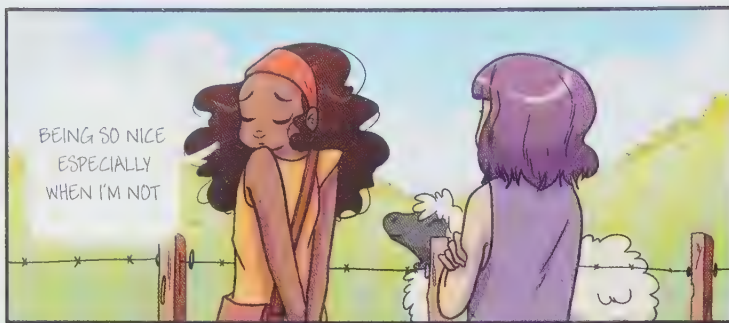


IT'S GREAT THAT YOU'RE FINALLY LEANING INTO THIS. PLUS, IF WE FIND THE CAT, THANKS TO YOUR SKILLS, EVERYONE WILL KNOW ABOUT YOUR GIFTS! YOU'RE GONNA HAVE A WHOLE NEW LIFE. IT'S SUPER EXCITING.



KNOCK IT OFF.

KNOCK WHAT OFF?



I KNOW, I KNOW, I'M SORRY! BUT IT'S NOT OFTEN A STORY LIKE THAT COMES OUT OF NOWHERE. PLUS, MY ARTICLE'S ACTUALLY VERY NICE...



THAT IS NOT THE ISSUE!

BOO, YOU'RE NO FUN! HOW ABOUT SO THAT YOU'LL FORGIVE ME, I TAKE YOU TO A MOVIE?



IN YOUR DREAMS!

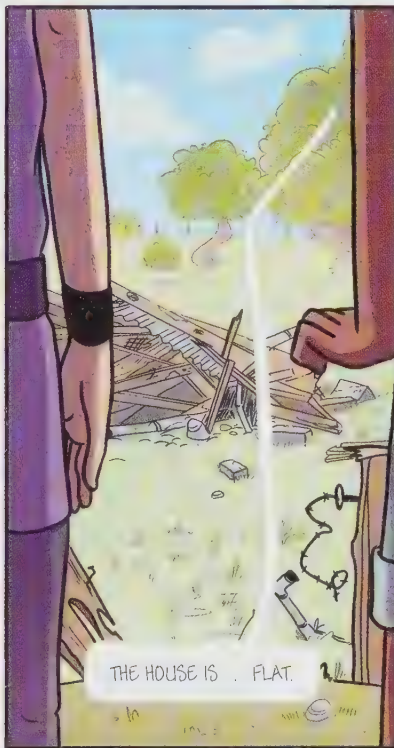


WHO DOES HE THINK HE IS?

HERE WE ARE! I'M SURE THIS IS IT. I REMEMBER THE BARBED WIRE AT THE EDGES.



THE HOUSE IS . . . FLAT.

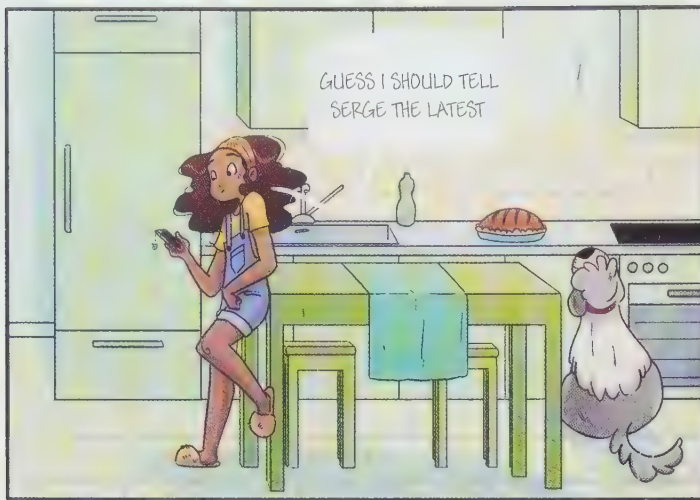


WELL, PEOPLE DON'T ALWAYS SUCCEED THE FIRST TIME. YOU'RE GONNA GET THERE, CASSANDRA.



AH, THERE'S NO FIGHTING IT! YOU CAN'T STOP BEING NICE.





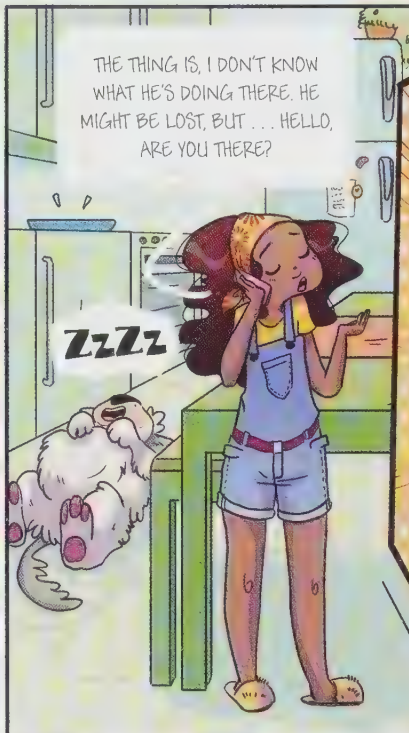
GUESS I SHOULD TELL
SERGE THE LATEST



HI, IT'S CASSANDRA. GOOD
NEWS! I MANAGED TO GET
IN TOUCH WITH TITUS



HE'S FINE, I'M SURE OF IT. I WAS
ABLE TO LOCATE HIM - HE'S IN
AN ABANDONED HOUSE.



THE THING IS, I DON'T KNOW
WHAT HE'S DOING THERE. HE
MIGHT BE LOST, BUT ... HELLO,
ARE YOU THERE?

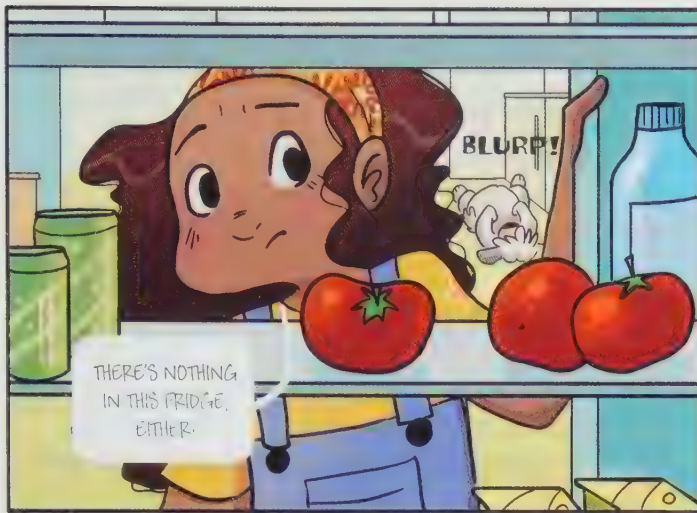


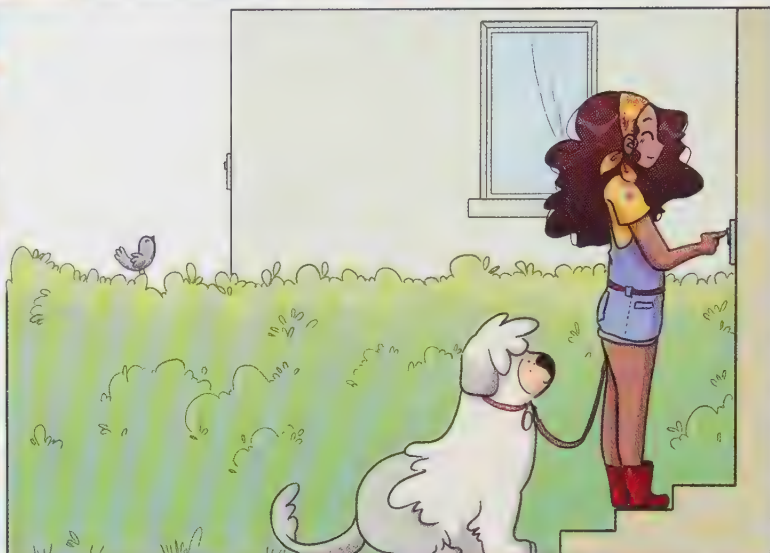
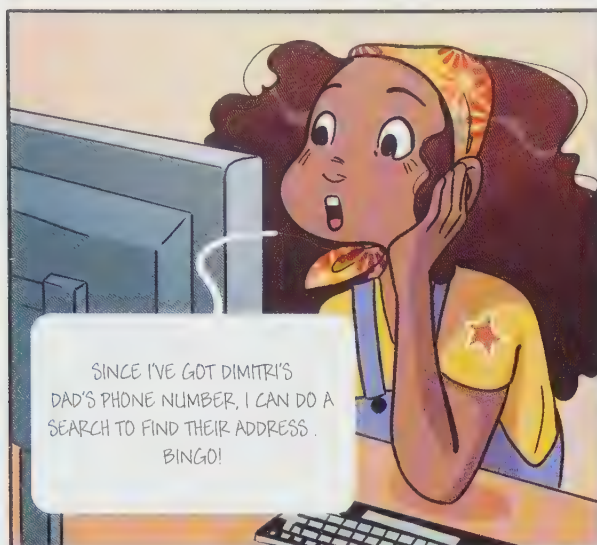
CASSANDRA - THIS MORNING, WE FOUND
A RANSOM NOTE IN OUR MAILBOX. MY
SON'S CAT IS IN DANGER. YOU'RE A
NICE GIRL, BUT I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR
YOUR PSYCHIC TALK ANYMORE.

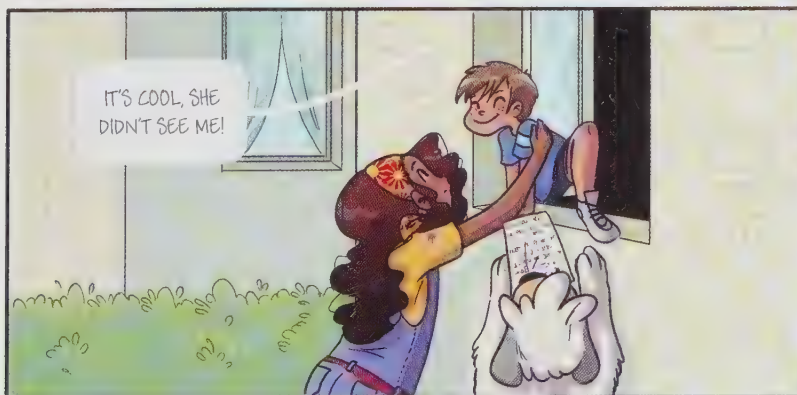


A RANSOM NOTE?
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!

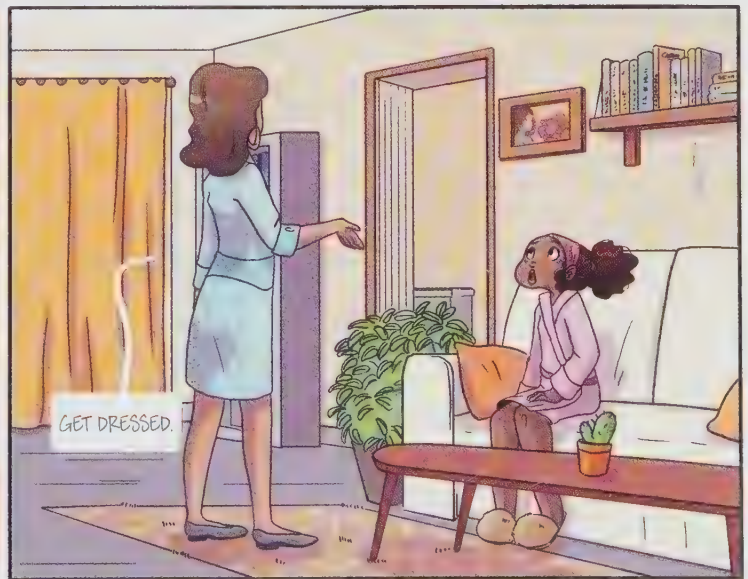
TITUS ISN'T A HOSTAGE. HE'S
HAPPY! I KNOW IT. EVEN IF I
CAN'T PROVE IT.

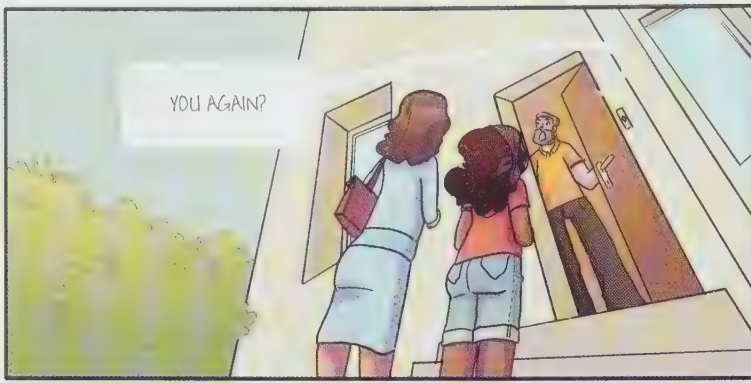




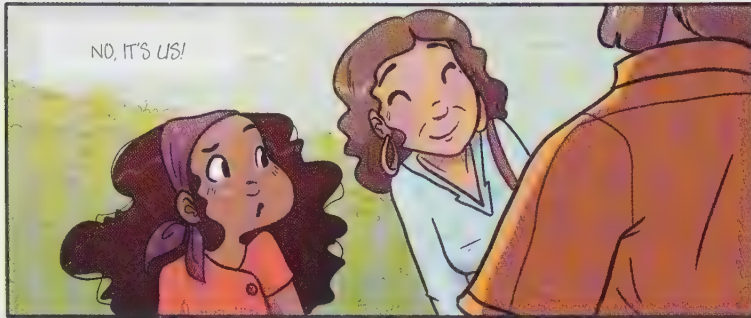








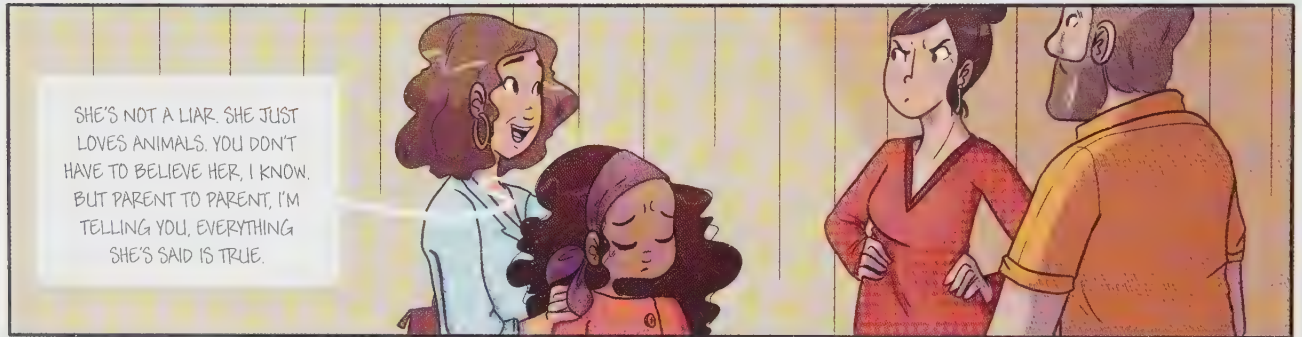
YOU AGAIN?



NO, IT'S US!



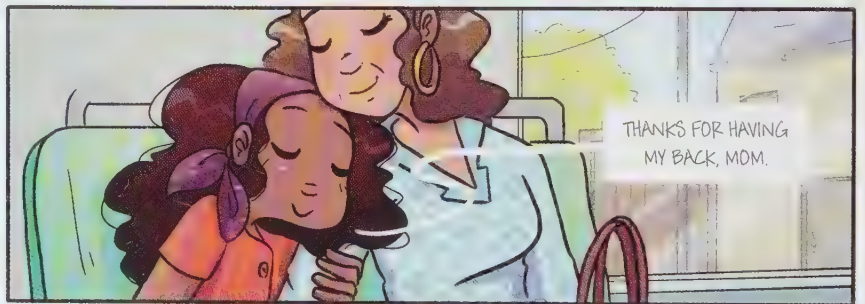
I'M HERE ON BEHALF OF MY DAUGHTER. IT MAY BE HARD TO BELIEVE, BUT SHE HAS A REAL GIFT FOR GETTING IN TOUCH WITH ANIMALS



SHE'S NOT A LIAR. SHE JUST LOVES ANIMALS. YOU DON'T HAVE TO BELIEVE HER, I KNOW. BUT PARENT TO PARENT, I'M TELLING YOU, EVERYTHING SHE'S SAID IS TRUE.



THAT WAS AMAZING!
YOU NAILED IT!



THANKS FOR HAVING MY BACK, MOM.

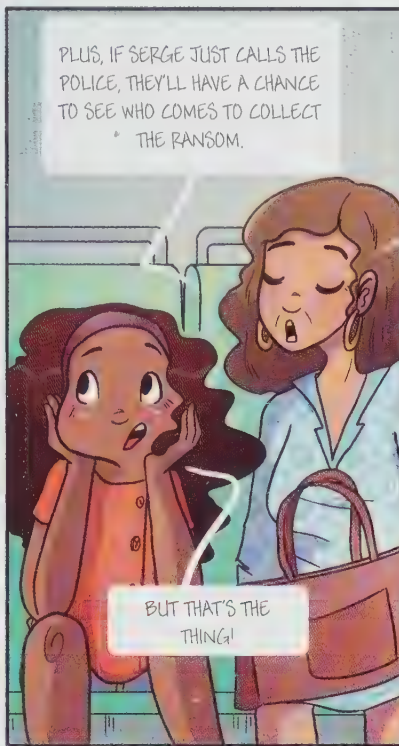


SO, THAT'S THAT? I DON'T THINK YOU SHOULD STRESS ABOUT THIS. IT'S NOT YOUR PROBLEM ANYMORE.



BUT IT IS! I REALLY WANT PROOF THAT TITUS ISN'T A PRISONER. AND AFTER THIS RANDOM NOTE, I WANT TO BE SURE OF MYSELF TOO

WHAT IF YOU JUST CHOOSE TO TRUST YOURSELF?



PLUS, IF SERGE JUST CALLS THE POLICE, THEY'LL HAVE A CHANCE TO SEE WHO COMES TO COLLECT THE RANDOM.

BUT THAT'S THE THING!

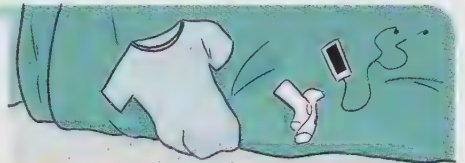


WELL YOU'RE NOT GOING TO THE RANDOM DROP! I FORBID IT!

I WASN'T THINKING ABOUT ME.



A CAT HAS BEEN KIDNAPPED! TOMORROW THE OWNERS ARE DROPPING OFF THE RANDOM. I NEED YOUR SKILLS TO GET A SHOT OF THE PERSON WHO COMES TO GET THE MONEY. TEMPTED?



WHOA! SOUNDS LIKE AN ADVENTURE.



IT'S NOT A GAME. IF YOU AREN'T UP FOR THIS, I DON'T WANT YOUR HELP.



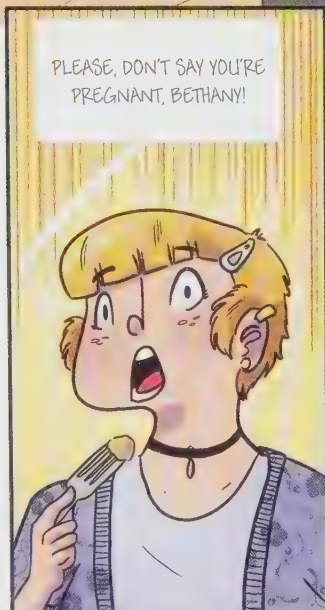
YOU KIDDING? I ALWAYS CHASE A SCOOP. I KNEW YOU'D BRING ME LUCK!





MMM! THAT'S GOOD

WE'VE GOT SOMETHING TO TELL YOU.



PLEASE, DON'T SAY YOU'RE PREGNANT, BETHANY!



NOPE, NOT THAT. WE'VE DECIDED TO LIVE TOGETHER.

I HOPE THAT'S A JOKE.



WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN WITH US?

WELL, YOU'RE NOT GETTING ABANDONED! ALL FOUR OF US WILL BE LIVING TOGETHER.

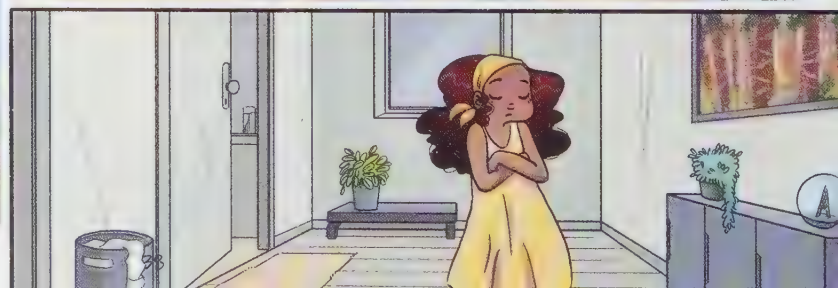


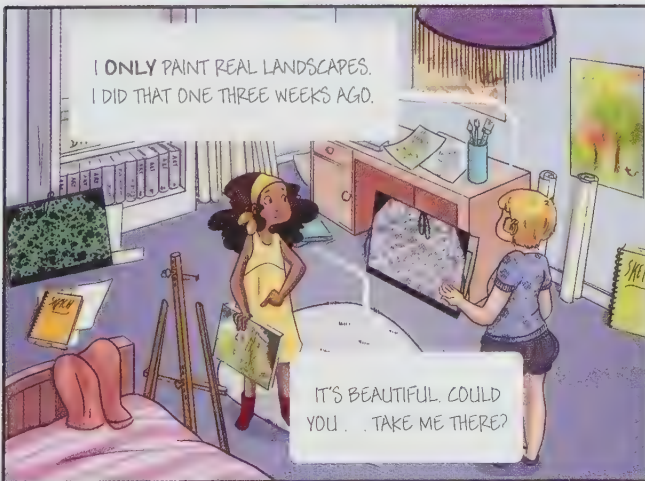
NEVER!

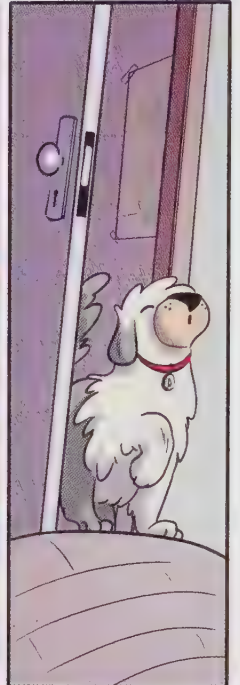
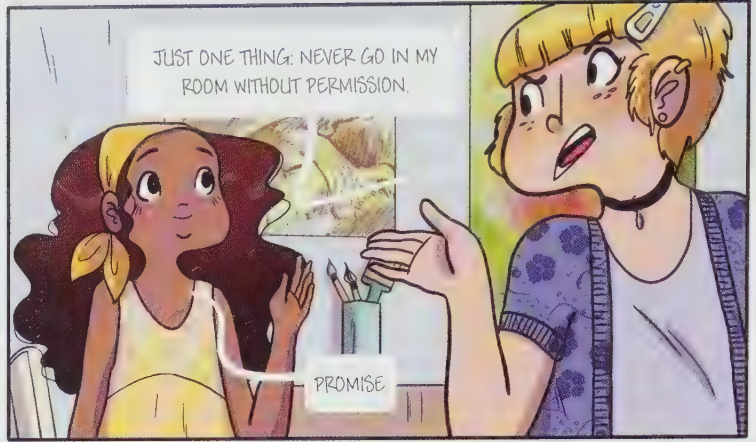
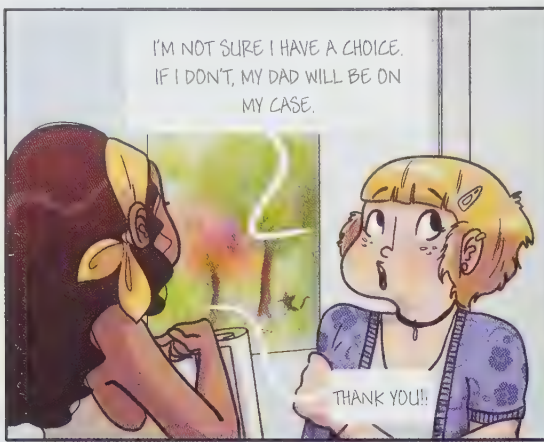
SORRY, I HAVE TO RUN TO THE BATHROOM.

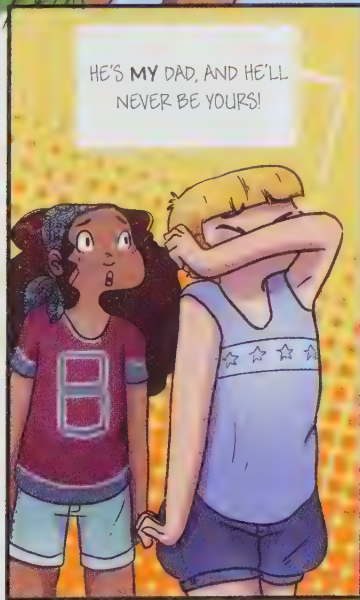


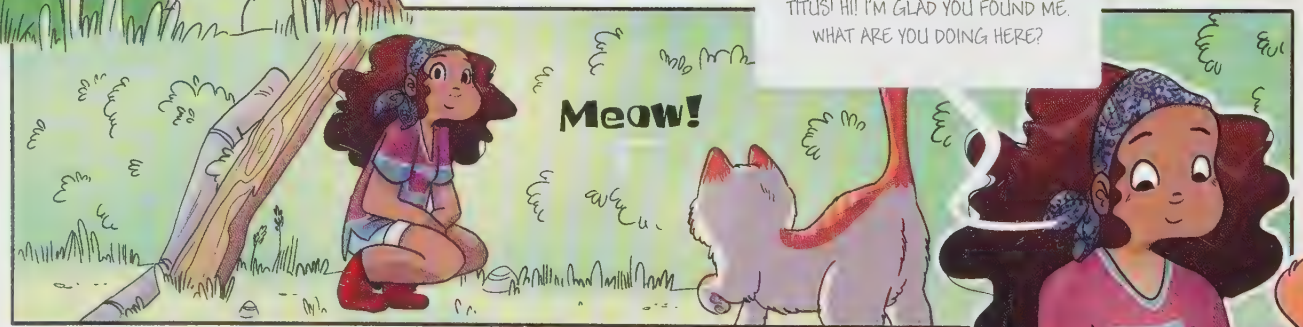
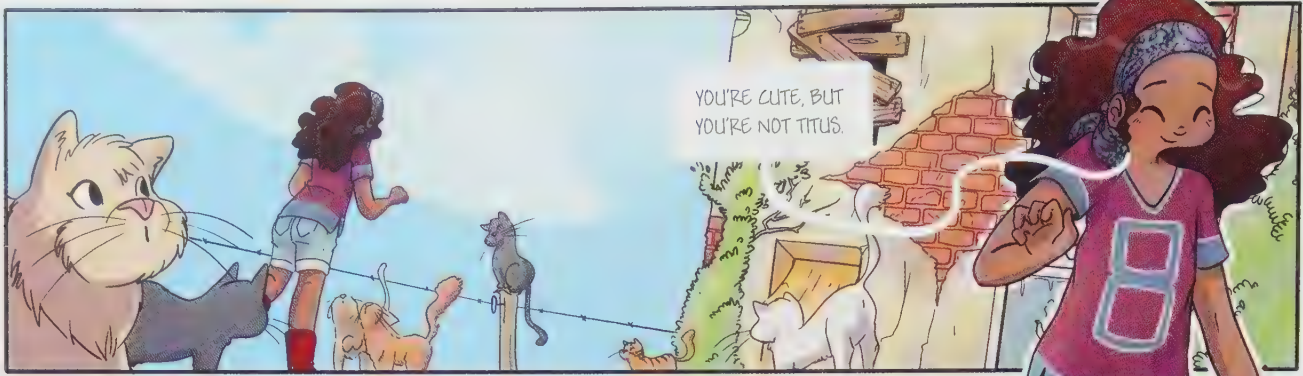
ANOTHER CHANGE. JUST WHAT I NEEDED.



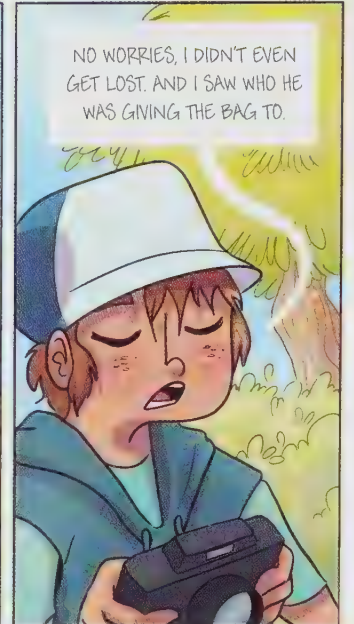
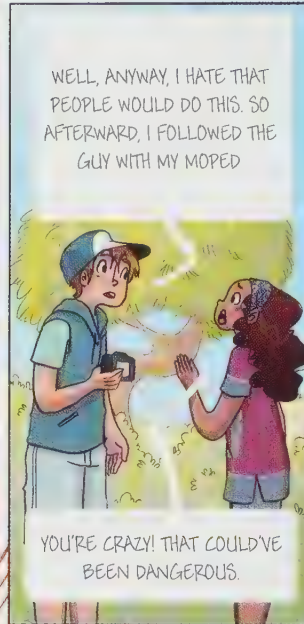
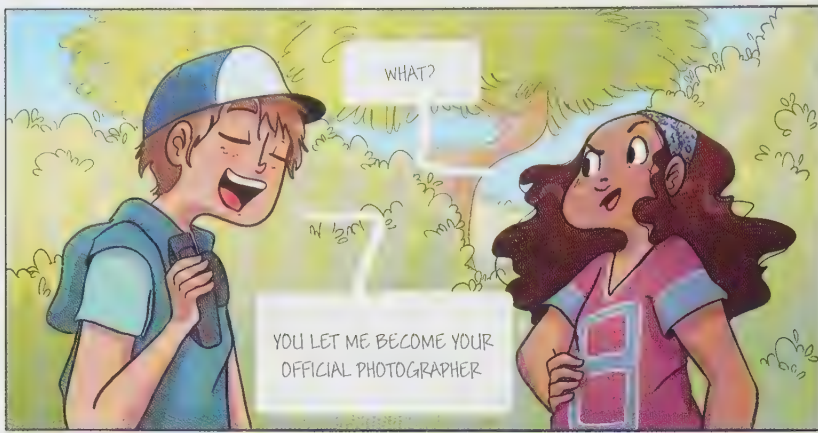


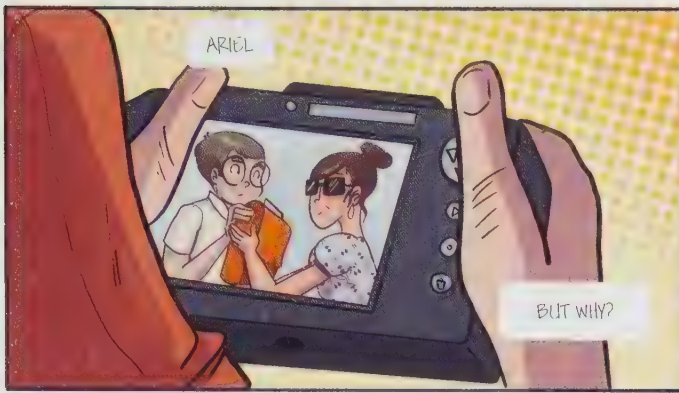












ARIEL

BUT WHY?

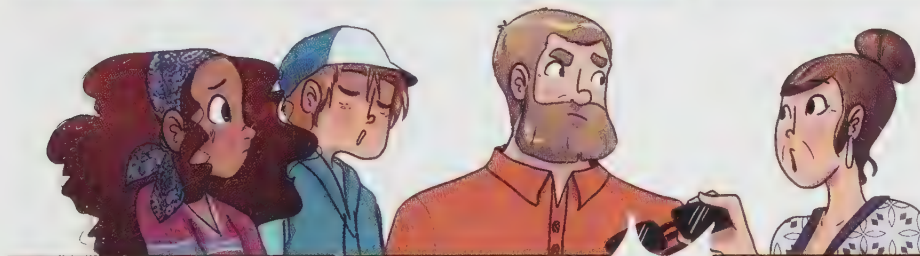


I HOPE YOU DON'T MIND US
TAKING THE INITIATIVE AND
INVESTIGATING

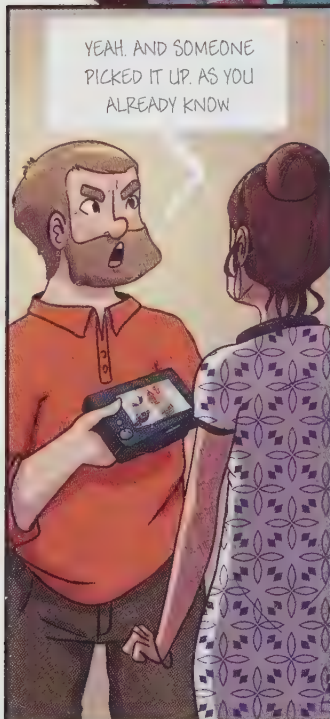
NO YOU AND YOUR FRIEND
HAVE DONE GOOD WORK



IT'S ME!



LOOKS LIKE WE HAVE COMPANY.
WHAT'S GOING ON? WHAT ABOUT
TITUS? DID YOU DROP OFF THAT
RANSOM?

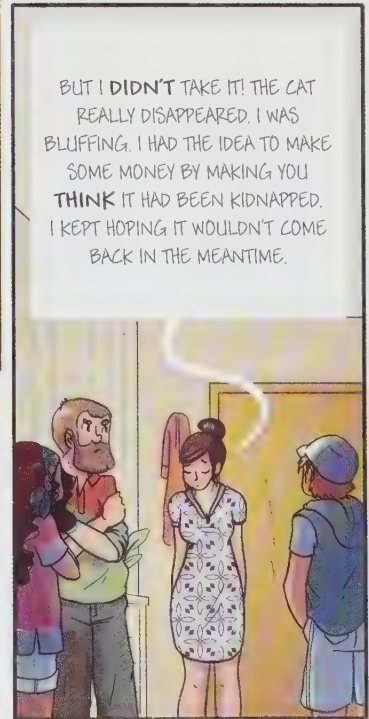


YEAH. AND SOMEONE
PICKED IT UP. AS YOU
ALREADY KNOW



HOW COULD
YOU?

I WANTED SOMETHING NEW
IN MY LIFE. BUT I NEEDED
MONEY TO LEAVE



BUT I **DIDN'T** TAKE IT! THE CAT
REALLY DISAPPEARED. I WAS
BLUFFING. I HAD THE IDEA TO MAKE
SOME MONEY BY MAKING YOU
THINK IT HAD BEEN KIDNAPPED.
I KEPT HOPING IT WOULDN'T COME
BACK IN THE MEANTIME.

BY TAKING MY
SON'S CAT?





THAT'S ENOUGH!

YOU HAVE FIVE MINUTES TO
RETURN THE MONEY AND LEAVE
THIS HOUSE. AFTER THAT, I'M
CALLING THE POLICE!



BRAVO, LITTLE LADY!
GREAT WORK.



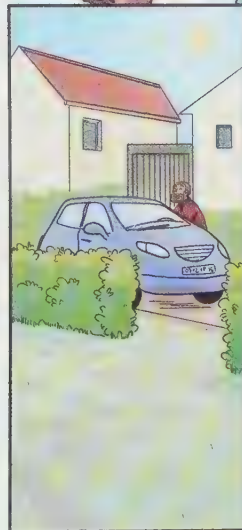
I DON'T KNOW HOW
TO THANK YOU.

WHAT IF WE WENT
TO SEE TITUS?



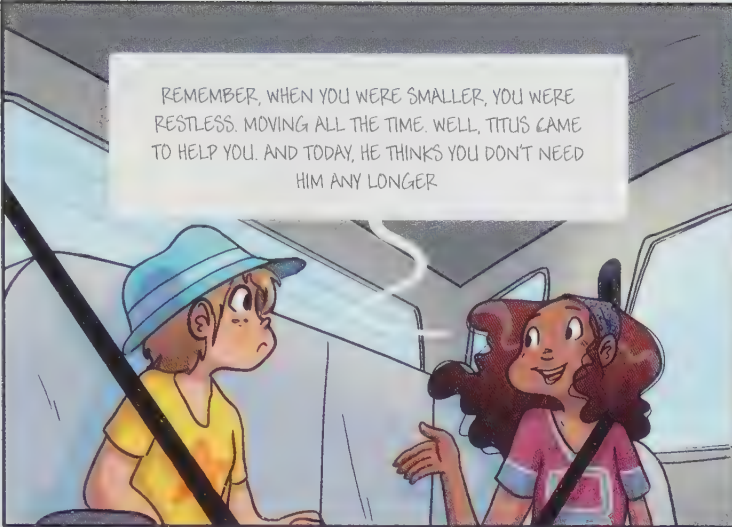
SO YOU REALLY
KNOW WHERE
HE IS?

YES.




BY THE WAY, TITUS DIDN'T
COME INTO YOUR LIFE BY
ACCIDENT. HE CHOSE YOU
LIKE YOU CHOSE HIM


BUT WHY?




REMEMBER, WHEN YOU WERE SMALLER, YOU WERE RESTLESS. MOVING ALL THE TIME. WELL, TITUS CAME TO HELP YOU. AND TODAY, HE THINKS YOU DON'T NEED HIM ANY LONGER



HE DOESN'T WANT TO SEE ME ANYMORE?




OH, IT'S NOT THAT! IT'S ABOUT HIM HE'S A WILD CAT AT HEART. HE WANTS TO TRAVEL, TO SEE OTHER THINGS, TO DISCOVER A NEW LIFE



I'LL NEVER SEE HIM AGAIN?

I DON'T KNOW. BUT SOMETIMES LOVING SOMEONE MEANS LETTING THEM LIVE THE LIFE THEY WANT. EVEN IF THAT'S A LITTLE SAD FOR YOU



WHEN YOU LOVE A FRIEND, YOU WANT TO KEEP THEM NEAR YOU. BUT YOU CAN'T LET THAT MAKE YOU SELF-CENTERED. YOU HAVE TO LISTEN TO THEM TOO

THEY WERE ALL SO CLOSE TO
THE HOUSE, BUT THE DOOR WAS
CLOSED.



"I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE HERE,
AND THAT YOU'RE ALL TOGETHER.
IT'S A WONDERFUL DAY."

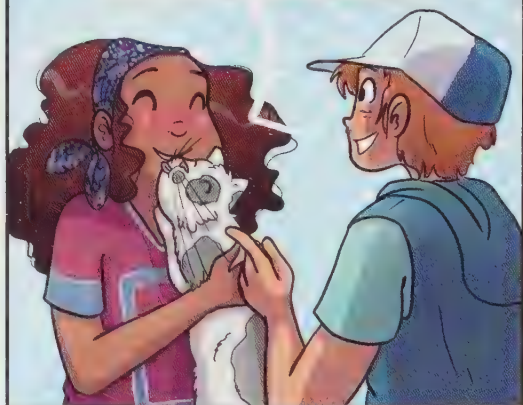


"THANKS FOR LETTING ME
BE PART OF THIS MOMENT."



"YOU MUST BE A DECENT
REPORTER. WITHOUT YOU, WE
NEVER WOULD HAVE HAD THE
LAST PART OF THE STORY! ARE YOU
GOING TO WRITE AN ARTICLE?"

"I SENSE YOU DON'T LIKE TO BE IN THE
SPOTLIGHT TOO MUCH. SO THIS TIME,
I'LL KEEP THE STORY TO MYSELF."

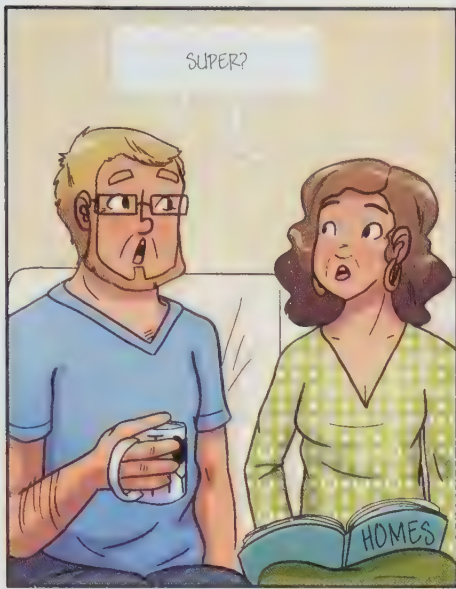


"AH, THERE YOU
ARE!"

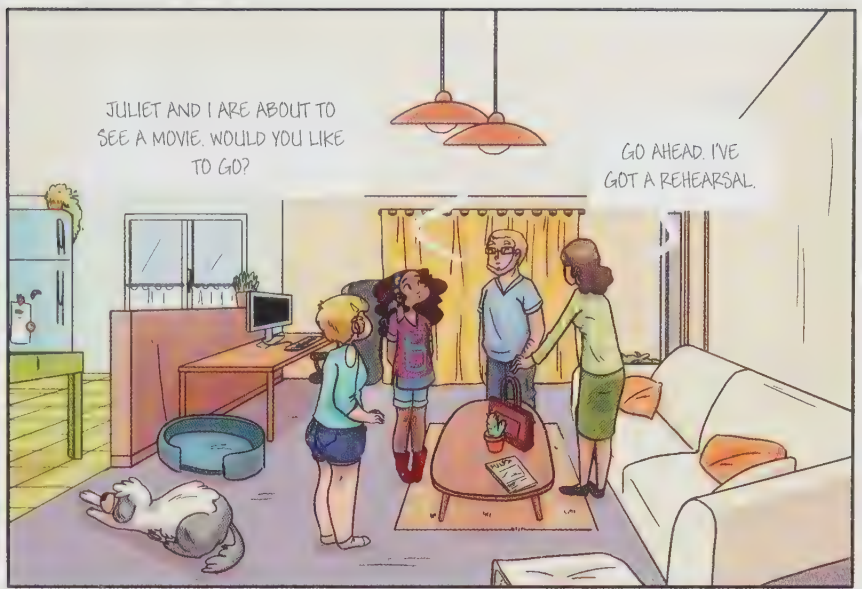
"WE'RE CHECKING OUT A
HOUSE TOMORROW. I HOPE YOU
CAN COME WITH US."



"SO,
I'LL BE THERE."

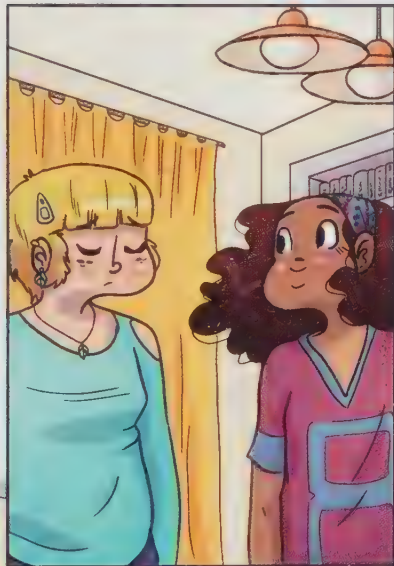


SUPER?

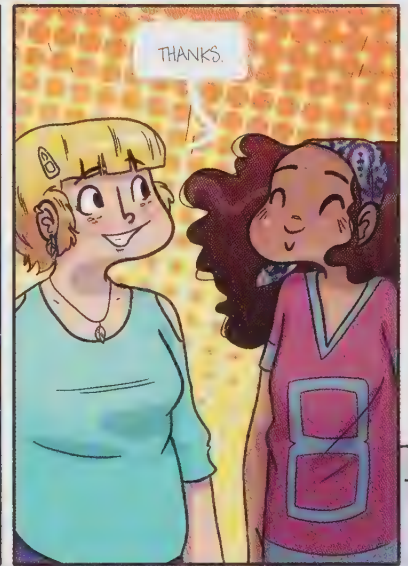


JULIET AND I ARE ABOUT TO SEE A MOVIE. WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO?

GO AHEAD. I'VE GOT A REHEARSAL.



THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE I HAVE TO DO. ANOTHER TIME, I PROMISE.



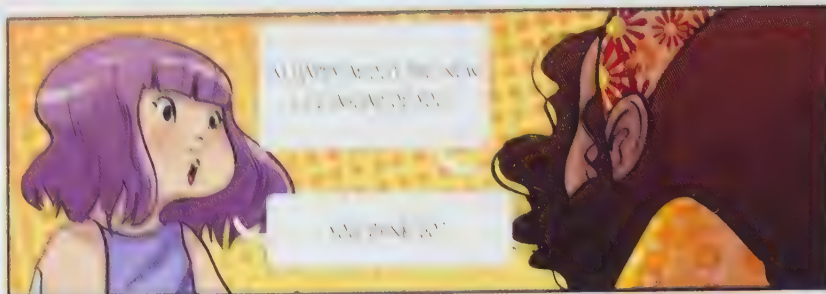
THANKS.



THIS IS FOR WHEN YOU'RE FAR AWAY FROM ME.

I'LL NEVER BE FAR AWAY FROM YOU!

A PHOTO FRAME. FOR WHAT?



SECRET NOTEBOOK

Miss Dolly



Memories, memories...



HOW I MET MISS DOLLY:

When I turned ten, Mom surprised me by taking me to a shelter so we could adopt a dog. *I went crazy with joy!* I'd been waiting for this day for so long. It had always been *my dream* to have a dog!

I couldn't wait to meet the pooch who was going to be my *new friend*. While almost all the puppies greeted me with some happy woofs, Miss Dolly was the only one to completely ignore me. She kept lying in her corner, folded in on herself, sighing long sighs. She looked so sad and miserable that my sensitive heart couldn't resist. *THAT'S HOW SHE WON ME OVER, HANDS DOWN!*



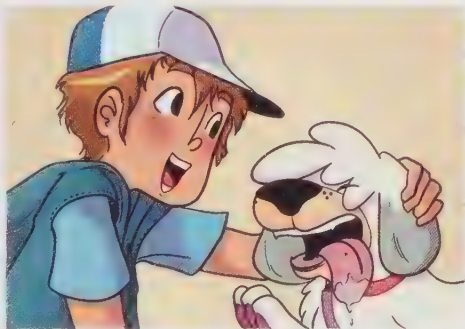
Who's this?



Miss Dolly has a big bobtail.



She's an English shepherd.



This bobtailed shepherd is very sociable. She gets along with everyone.

She's a big friend of the kids!



She's also a good sport whenever

I put her hair up.

No joke!



Her coat requires a lot of maintenance and grooming.



Decoding Miss Dolly's behavior



WARNING!

This is the look of a dog that has made a big mistake. Better act fast!



This look says you have something Miss Dolly wants, like ice cream or a hot dog.

Ignore it!



This means she will do anything for a piece of sausage, even busting out her butt-wiggling dance to get your attention!



When a dog sleeps on its side, that means it feels cozy in its space. She can relax and sleep because she's comfortable. Thank you, my Dolly!



Miss Dolly, the Queen of Goofiness!

This dog lives in the moment. If I catch her doing something naughty, I scold her. But if I'm not sure when the naughtiness happened, I let her be. Miss Dolly wouldn't understand why I'm scolding her because she already would have forgotten what she did.

When Miss Dolly was a puppy, sometimes she would pee inside. To show her little by little what was good and what was bad, if I took her out and she did her business, I'd reward her with a little treat. Miss Dolly understood really quickly:



peeing inside = we have a problem

peeing outside = you get a reward

About the Author

Isabelle Bottier

Isabelle Bottier is a writer based in Ile-de-France, France. She made her debut writing for French television and quickly began to write on several animated series. She also uses her imagination to create comics for young readers.

About the Artist

Hélène Canac

Hélène Canac lives in the sanctuary of comics, Angoulême, France. She has studied graphic design, publishing, and advertising, and she worked in animation after her time as a student. She also works in youth illustration, providing art for novels, games, notebooks . . . and, most recently, comics!



Coming soon:
the second Cassandra:
Animal Psychic graphic novel,
Out on a Limb!

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Cassandra has a gift. Animals can show her what they're thinking. And after keeping her special talent a secret, Cassandra decides to start helping pets and their people.

The trouble is, other parts of Cassandra's life are changing too. Her mom has a boyfriend she really likes, but his daughter can't stand Cassandra. And Cassandra's best friend is about to leave town. Not even her trusty dog Miss Dolly can make things feel okay. When Cassandra gets on the trail of a lost cat, will she be able to help its owners? Or will her first case be a flop?



LOST CAT: TITUS

White and orange, with stripes
Lost around June

HAVE YOU SEEN ME?

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